

**South Cambridgeshire
Rural District**

in the

**Administrative County
of Cambridge**

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for

1948

To the Chairman and Members
of the
South Cambridgeshire Rural District Council.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I present for your consideration my Annual Report for the year 1948 on the Health, Sanitary conditions, and Vital Statistics of the South Cambridgeshire Rural District.

The Report is drawn up on the lines suggested in Circular 3/49 issued by the Ministry of Health.

ARTHUR MORGAN,
Medical Officer of Health.

August, 1949.

GENERAL STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area	112,315 acres
Number of Parishes	52
Estimated resident population	24,400 (1947 - 23,720)
Rateable value	£84,338 0s. 0d.
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£346 13s. 9d.
Number of houses according to the Rate Books ..	7,365

Social Conditions :—

The whole district is agricultural in character and, with few exceptions, there are no industries except those directly or indirectly dependant upon agriculture.

The villages are, for the most part, fairly widely separated from one another and of relatively small size, each possessing and retaining its own individuality. Six of the 52 parishes have populations of over 1,000 persons. The remaining 46 can be subdivided as follows :—

Populations between 600 and 800—	3
„ „ 400 and 600—	9
„ „ 150 and 400—	26
„ „ 50 and 80—	8

It will, no doubt, be appreciated that the distances between and small sizes of the villages present difficulties in so far as major schemes of water supply and sewerage are concerned. The one parish that shews any signs of industrial development is Sawston which, incidentally, is the largest in the area (population about 1700).

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births :—

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	233	210	443
Illegitimate	11	13	24
Totals	244	223	467

Birth Rate per thousand estimated population	19.1
Birth Rate per thousand population (England and Wales)	17.9

Still Births :—

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	6	7	13
Illegitimate	—	1	1
Totals	6	8	14

Rate per thousand (live and still births)	29.1
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Deaths :—

Deaths :—	Male.	Female.	Total.
	188	151	339
Death Rate per thousand estimated population	13.8
Death Rate per thousand population (England and Wales)			10.8

Deaths from puerperal causes :—Nil.

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age :—

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	5	4	9
Illegitimate	—	—	—

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—

(a) All infants per thousand live births ..	19.2
(b) Legitimate infants per thousand legitimate live births	20.3
(c) Illegitimate infants per thousand illegitimate live births	Nil

Comparative Tables :—

	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
Deaths from measles (all ages) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths from whooping cough (all ages)	—	1	—	—	—
Deaths from diarrhoea (under 2 years)	—	3	1	2	—
Deaths from pneumonia (all ages)	11	7	8	10	6
Deaths from cancer (all ages) ..	46	51	44	48	60
Deaths from influenza (all ages)	4	1	1	1	1

Birth and Death Rates years 1944-1948 :—

	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
Birth Rate	18.9	18.8	17.1	15.6	19.1
Death Rate	15.5	13.7	13.1	14.1	13.8

Table Classifying Deaths under Age Groups.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Under 1 year	5	4	9
1 and under 2	—	—	—
2 „ „ 5	1	—	1
5 „ „ 15	—	—	—
15 „ „ 25	4	3	7
25 „ „ 35	5	2	7
35 „ „ 45	13	3	16
45 „ „ 55	15	10	25
55 „ „ 65	18	25	43
65 „ „ 75	50	35	85
75 „ „ over	77	69	146
Totals	188	151	339

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

There are alterations to record in the general arrangement of these services.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY :—

(a) A whole-time Medical Officer of Health, who also acts for the other two Rural Districts in the County.

(b) Mr. A. C. Dyson, Senior Sanitary Inspector, together with Mr. R. J. Hoyle, Additional Sanitary Inspector, carry out their designated duties and the supervision of Water Supplies, Sewage Disposal, Refuse Collection and Disposal.

LABORATORY FACILITIES :—

Chemical and bacteriological examinations of water, etc., are made by the Public Analyst at Cambridge. The Emergency Public Health Laboratory, Cambridge, make all the necessary bacteriological examinations in cases of infectious diseases, etc.

Hospitals :—

There are no General Hospitals situated in the Area.

ISOLATION HOSPITALS :—

None within the Area. Cases of infectious disease requiring hospital treatment are sent to the Cambridge Borough Isolation Hospital. As from July 4th, 1948, no charges are made for maintenance, which represents a considerable saving.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLIES :—

Particulars of number of dwelling-houses and the number of the population supplied from public water mains :—

		<i>With piped supply laid on.</i>		<i>Water from Public Standpipes.</i>	
<i>Parish.</i>		<i>Houses.</i>	<i>Estimated Population Supplied.</i>	<i>Houses.</i>	<i>Estimated Population.</i>
Group 1	Great Abington ..	83	257	46	189
	Little Abington ..	39	121	32	99
	Balsham	145	449	32	99
	Bartlow	7	22	14	43
	Carlton	39	105	13	35
	Castle Camps ..	61	201	87	287
	Hildersham	16	50	28	92
	Horseheath	35	115	57	188
	Linton	195	634	218	708
	Shudy Camps ..	22	69	50	155
	West Wickham ..	45	148	33	109
	Weston Colville ..	37	118	52	166
	West Wrating ..	65	197	19	65
	Abington Pigotts ..	39	118	—	—
	Bassingbourn ..	198	638	—	—
Group 2	Kneesworth	6	19	—	—
	Litlington	168	502	—	—
	Melbourn	223	725	—	—
	Meldreth	168	520	—	—
	Guilden Morden ..	147	480	—	—
	Steeple Morden ..	146	468	—	—
	Shingay	16	60	—	—
	Wendy	22	86	—	—
	Whaddon	47	160	—	—
	Arrington	158	420	—	—
	Croydon	49	158	—	—
	Gamlingay	317	1022	—	—
	Little Gransden ..	47	153	6	20
	East Hatley	17	60	—	—
	Hatley St. George ..	14	49	—	—
	Orwell	131	431	—	—
	Wimpole	42	126	—	—
	Sawston	476	1475	101	313
	Great Chishill ..	67	211	27	85
	Little Chishill ..	4	15	6	22
	Heydon	14	46	37	123
	Longstowe	25	75	10	30
	Kingston	2	7	40	132
Totals ..		3332	10510	908	2960

Parishes in Group 1 are supplied from the Linton Pumping Station, those in Group 2 from the Croydon source. Sawston has its own water works, Heydon, Great and Little Chishill are supplied from Saffron Walden. Longstowe and Kingston are partially supplied by the Chesterton and St. Ives Joint Water Board. In all cases the supply afforded has been satisfactory, both in quantity and quality, except at Kingston, where it needs implementation and at Longstowe where it is most inefficient. In so far as the latter parish is concerned, the provision of a piped supply is still under consideration, and it appears to be a debatable matter whether it should be taken from the Council's main at Little Gransden or from that belonging to the Chesterton and St. Ives Joint Water Board.

The fourteen parishes without any piped water supply are Babraham, Duxford, Hinxton, Ickleton, Pampisford, Fowlmere, Foxton, Shepreth, Barrington, Horseheath, Thriplow, Great and Little Eversden and Tadlow. These parishes are dependent upon well water of doubtful purity (20 out of 33 samples taken for analysis in 1948 were found unfit for drinking purposes).

This matter is, however, receiving attention and a scheme, prepared by the District Council's Consulting Engineers for the provision of a piped supply to these parishes, has already been submitted to the Ministry of Health together with the observations of the County Council.

At Tadlow water is obtained from a new bore sunk in the middle of the village, but it is still necessary to cart water twice weekly to ten houses.

Due to the supply from the Public Pump at Great Eversden being inadequate, it has been necessary to cart water twice weekly and store in two 500 gallon tanks.

Whilst the Contractors have not yet commenced laying the mains in Kingston, Great and Little Eversden, work has been commenced on other parishes in the Chesterton Rural District Council which are included in this scheme.

During the year a submersible pump has been put into use at Croydon Pumping Station and water is now pumped at the rate of 20,000 gallons an hour during the daytime. As this is not automatically controlled the existing pumps are used at night.

A 2in. A/C main was laid in Nine Chimneys Lane, Balsham affording a supply of water to ten houses.

Water levels have been taken once monthly at the Pumping Stations at Croydon, Linton and Sawston and there does not appear to be any appreciable change in the levels compared with the previous year.

ANALYSES :—

Full chemical and bacteriological analyses are made monthly from Croydon, Linton and Sawston Pumping Stations. In the case of Longstowe, Great and Little Chishill and Heydon, they are made every three months, but are supplemented by monthly bacteriological examinations. All supplies are chlorinated. The following statement indicates the results obtained :—

(i) Chemical and Bacteriological Examinations :—

Western Area	..	12.	All safe. Mention made by Analyst of turbidity due to precipitation of iron compounds.
Linton ..	..	12.	All fit.
Sawston ..	..	12.	All fit.
Longstowe ..	..	3.	All fit.
Great Chishill and Heydon	..	3.	All fit.

(ii) Bacteriological Examination :—

Western Area	..	35.	All satisfactory.
Longstowe ..	..	9.	All satisfactory.
Great Chishill and Heydon	..	9.	All satisfactory.

Other samples taken included 33 from Public Pumps and private water supplies and of these 20 were found to be unfit.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

With the exception of Sawston Housing Site, the general situation remains the same.

In order to deal with the sewage from this site, it will be necessary to lift the sewage from the low-level sewer to the existing sewer in High Street, pending the construction of a new sewer at a suitable depth. The installation of a sewage pumping plant is in progress.

A Public Inquiry was held at Sawston and approval given by the Ministry of Health to a scheme relating to a new length of sewer from the Housing Site via High Street and Mill Lane to the existing Disposal Works, at an estimated cost of £11,000.

At the time of writing this report, the general situation is as follows :—

A Public Inquiry has been held and approval given by the Ministry of Health to a scheme for sewerage the parish of Linton at an estimated cost of £47,893.

Schemes are being prepared by the Consulting Engineers for sewerage the parishes of Melbourn, Meldreth and Gamlingay.

RIVERS AND STREAMS :—

From time to time complaints have been received from an adjoining Rural Authority to the effect that the river Granta was intermittently discoloured as it entered their district.

On investigation it was found that this was due to the discharge of trade effluent from a paper mill in the parish of Sawston.

Several samples of trade effluent were obtained and submitted to the public Analyst. His inferences on a typical sample are as follows :

“ The figures obtained for suspended solids and for dissolved oxygen absorbed in 5 days may be considered rather high.

The sample which was coloured blue absorbs a comparatively large amount of oxygen from acid permanganate although the proportions of Ammonia and Nitrate appear to be satisfactory.

A fish (roach) immersed in a solution of 1 part of Effluent to 4 parts of tap water for 1 hour showed no signs of injury.

I am of the opinion that this Effluent, as evidenced by the sample, is unsuitable for discharge into the River.”

In view of this the owners were approached and new filter beds are to be constructed. They stated that the colour of the effluent and consequent discoloration of the river was due to the use of a particular grade of rag and that this was to be discontinued.

At the time of writing, new filter beds are in course of construction.

PUBLIC CLEANSING :—

The arrangements made by the Council to collect house refuse from the whole of the district will commence on the 1st April, 1949, when refuse will be collected from 29 parishes with a 10 cubic yard Dennis Dustcart owned by the Council and from 23 parishes by private contractors.

When this scheme is put into operation, collections will be made by the Council's vehicle once a month from 17 parishes, once every two months from 12 parishes and once a week from the hutments at Wimpole Park.

In the remaining 23 parishes where refuse will be collected by private contractors, collections will vary from once a month to once every three months.

Only three refuse tips will be used for the disposal of refuse from the group of 29 parishes and seven tips for the group of 23 parishes.

By reducing the number of refuse tips from twenty-one to ten, a greater degree of supervision will be possible over the method of controlled tipping.

At present periodical collections varying once a month to twice a year are made by private Contractors in 37 parishes and from Wimpole Park Hutments, once a week.

The refuse is disposed of in twenty-one different pits, many of which are disused clunch pits.

A weekly collection of night soil by a private contractor was continued in part of the parish of Sawston. The area dealt with contained approximately 160 houses.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The following is a summary of the inspections carried out during 1948 :—

Complaints	243
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Housing :—

General Inspections	87
<i>re</i> Application for Building Licences	2
Reinspections	550
Overcrowding	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4

Infectious Diseases :—

Cases Investigated and Premises Disfected	35
Number of Other Premises Disinfected	18

Verminous Premises :—

Premises Disinfested	9
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Water Supply :—

Inspections and Investigations	130
Samples of Water	142
Chlorination Tests	38
Pressure and Flow Tests	26
Survey re Water Supply Enquiry	1680

Milk and Dairies Orders	241
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Food and Drugs Act :—

Meat Inspections	12
Inspection of other Foods	50
Preserved Food Premises	35
Bakehouses	35
Catering Establishments	37

Shops Act	63
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Factories Act :—

Mechanical }	77
Non-Mechanical }	

Schools	2
Moveable Dwellings	14
Scavenging and Cleansing	111
Ditches, Drains and Cesspools	218
Sewage Disposal and Survey for Enquiry	841
Miscellaneous Inspections	127
Miscellaneous Reinspections	54

4881

Number of Nuisances and Defects found	563
Number of Informal Notices	261

Number of Statutory Notices :—

Public Health Act	1
Housing Act	Nil

Number of Nuisances, Defects, etc. remedied :—

Cowsheds and Dairies Altered and Repaired	8
Cowsheds and Dairies Cleansed	25
Cowsheds Reconstructed	3

Dairies Reconstructed	3
Dairy Utensils Cleansed	8
Dairy Improvements (Sterilizers provided, Water Supplied etc.)	5
Dangerous and Dilapidated Buildings Demolished ..	5
Chimney Stacks Repaired	4
Drains Repaired	9
Drains Reconstructed	54
Dampness Excluded	15
Floors Repaired	15
Food Premises Cleansed	21
Gutters and Rainwater Renewed and Repaired	9
Plasterwork Repaired	38
Privies Converted to Pail Closets	8
Roofs Repaired and Renewed	58
Refuse Accumulation Removed	3
Sanitary Conveniences Repaired	16
Sanitary Conveniences Provided	12
Staircases Repaired	4
Sinks Provided	1
Stoves Renewed	11
Main Water Supplied	35
Water Fittings Repaired	1
Well Covers Renewed and Repaired	3
Walls Repaired and Rebuilt	14
Window Sashes and Frames Repaired and Renewed ..	19
Wash Coppers Repaired and Renewed	4
Ditches Cleaned Out	2
Pail Closets Converted to Water Closets	2
Sanitary Conveniences Cleansed	8
Food Stores Provided	1
Smoke Nuisances abated	2
Miscellaneous Repairs	8
Total	434

HOUSING.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	245
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ..	245
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	10
(b) Number of inspections made for the purposes ..	10
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	6

(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	245
2.	Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :—	
	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered reasonably fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ..	132
3.	Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—	
(a)	Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By owners	Nil
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ..	Nil
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ..	1
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By owners	8
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ..	6
(c)	Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition Orders were made	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders :—	
(a)	By owners	5
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ..	Nil
(d)	Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ..	3
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined	Nil
4.	Housing Act, 1936—Part IV.—Overcrowding :—	
	Number of new cases of overcrowding	11
	Number of cases abated	4
	Section 155, Housing Act, 1936 and Defence (General) Regulations, 1939 :—	
	Number of licences renewed in respect of unfit houses	6

The Rural Housing Survey, completed in 1946, provided figures of some importance and, perhaps, worthy of a certain amount of consideration. The two outstanding facts were that out of 5,232 houses inspected 495 were placed in category 5 (unfit for habitation) and 682 in category 4 (repairable but not at a cost which could be considered reasonable at present values). * As reconditioning is an uneconomic proposition and only repairs of an urgent nature can be carried out, this means that, sooner or later, about 1100 new houses will be required to replace old ones that have fallen into a state of disrepair, apart from any question of overcrowding such as married sons and daughters living with parents.

During the year urgent repairs have been carried out in respect of 132 houses, this compared with 188 in 1947, and 327 in 1946. With the exception of 14 houses, all these repairs were carried out as a result of informal action under the Public Health and Housing Acts, 1936.

The number of new houses built by the District Council during these years is as followx :—

1946—26	1947—34	1948—68	Total 128.
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In addition quite a number of families have been housed in adapted hutments :—

1946—Nil.	1947—54.	1948—156.	Total 210
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Also in 1948 sixteen houses have been built by private enterprise.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY :—

Number of Milk Producers	98
Number of Producer Retailers	51
Number of Non-Producer Retailers	21

Of the above number 19 are Tuberculin Tested Producers and 23 Accredited.

Where required, Producers have been given advice in connection with the requirements of the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1936-46.

During the year 241 inspections were made to Cowsheds and Dairies. As a result of these inspections informal notices were served in 48 cases with the following results :—

Cowsheds and Dairies Altered or Repaired	8
Cowsheds and Dairies Cleansed	25
Cowsheds Reconstructed	3
Dairies Reconstructed	3
Milk Utensils Cleansed	8
Dairy Improvements (Sterilizers Provided, Water Supplied)	5

Routine sampling is done by the Officers of the Cambridgeshire Agricultural Executive Committee under the National Milk Testing and Advisory Scheme and Tuberculin Tested Producers by the County Council.

(b) FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1938 :—

Number of Premises Registered for the Sale of Ice Cream ..	11
Number of Premises Registered for Fish Frying ..	8
Number of Premises Registered for Sausage Making ..	22
Number of Bakehouses	22
Number of Catering Establishments	37

1948 has seen a considerable increase in the number of Catering Establishments.

A total of 203 inspections have been made in respect of Food Premises, consequent upon which informal notices have been served with regard to the following :—

General Cleanliness	21
Provision of Sanitary Conveniences	3
Defective Sanitary Conveniences	7
Defective Drainage Systems	2
Provision of Sinks	1
Provision of Hot and Cold Water	2
Provision of Food Store	1
General Repairs	4

The sampling of Ice Cream and the enforcement of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations have been systematically carried out.

Samples have been submitted to the Public Analyst in order to ascertain the plate count, presumptive coli and methylene blue reduction.

The Public Health Laboratories dealt with the samples where only the methylene blue reduction was required.

The following are the results :—

Methylene Blue Reduction

<i>Provisional Grading</i>							<i>Percentage of Samples.</i>
Grade 1 .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	44%
2 .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	22%
3 .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	12%
4 .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	22%

The majority of the samples in the lower grades i.e. 3 and 4 were of loose (unwrapped) Ice Cream. In nearly all of these cases contamination was found to be due to the use of unsterile Ice Cream scoops and utensils. Retailers were given guidance on these points and advised to sell only pre-wrapped Ice Cream.

There are no manufacturers of Ice Cream in the rural district.

Unfit Foods have been voluntarily surrendered, and comprise the following :—

291 lbs. Beef.
144 lbs. Pork.
18 lbs. Offal.
11 lbs. Bacon.
12 lbs. Cheese.
348 tins Assorted Foodstuffs.
3 Miscellaneous Foodstuffs.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	24	12	4	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	78	65	21	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	102	77	25	—

2.—Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred		No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	20	21	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	2	2	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	2	3	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	2	3	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	6	5	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	2	1	1	—	—
Total	34	35	1	1	—

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

ANALYSIS OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES UNDER AGE GROUPS.

Disease	Total cases notified	At Ages—Years												Cases admitted to Hospital	Deaths
		-1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65-		
Poliomyelitis	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	2
Diphtheria	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Scarlet Fever	32	—	—	—	2	2	20	5	1	1	1	—	—	13	—
Erysipelas	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	4	1	—	6
Measles	405	10	32	29	34	36	197	43	12	10	2	—	—	1	—
Whooping Cough	96	7	15	9	24	9	29	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals	551	17	47	38	61	47	246	50	14	18	7	6	1	17	8

It will be noted that Measles and Whooping Cough account for 501 of the notifications. The number of cases reported, however, preclude any investigation into home conditions, occupations, contacts, and so on, no staff being available for this purpose. The figures obtained are, no doubt, useful from a statistical and epidemiological point of view and, together with all other notifications, are submitted to the Registrar General in age groups in appropriate quarterly returns on forms provided by the Registrar General.

Diphtheria has never been prevalent in the area, and since the formation of the South Cambridgeshire Rural District in 1934, only seventeen cases have been reported. In 1939 Diphtheria immunisation was commenced on an intensive scale and, since then, no cases have been reported among immunised children. The original arrangements for Diphtheria immunisation were outlined in my report for 1942. These were that the County Council, the Authority dealing with schools and child welfare, arranged for immunisation sessions to be held at schools and infant welfare centres throughout the area, the immunisations being done by Medical Practitioners in the district. The Rural District Council paid the Practitioners fees, except in the case of sessions held at infant welfare centres and also, in the initial stages, paid for

all the necessary material for injection. At a later date, however, the material was obtained free of charge from the Emergency Public Health Laboratory. This was a great help, not only from the point of view of cost, but also because a substance of reliable potency could be provided.

A certain amount of time lag is inevitable in immunisations conducted on a sessional basis in a scattered rural area of this size, in order to accelerate matters, the District Council, in 1942, extended the arrangements to enable parents to have their children, whether of school age or under, immunised privately by their own Doctor. The fee was 7/6 for the two injections. This arrangement worked very well, and I estimated that, at the end of 1947, about 84% of children under school age and 85% between the ages of 5 and 14 had been fully protected.

I have dealt with this matter at some length because I think it possible that the part played by the Rural District Council may not have been fully appreciated and also because from July 4th, 1948, under the new arrangements, the several responsibilities have been transferred to the County Council, the District Council having no further commitments in the matter.

The following table shows the number of notifications of the principal infectious diseases since the formation of the South Cambridgeshire Rural District in 1934.

			1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941
Scarlet Fever	..	..	80	87	11	58	14	26	12	5
Diphtheria	..	..	3	2	—	1	1	1	1	1
Measles	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	134	681
Whooping Cough		..	—	—	—	—	—	14	57	73
Pneumonia	..	..	11	11	7	6	8	18	13	20
Typhoid and Para-typhoid Fever	..	..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
			1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	
Scarlet Fever		..	17	10	13	6	13	13	32	
Diphtheria	..	..	2	2	—	1	1	—	1	
Measles	..	..	25	256	95	535	132	111	405	
Whooping Cough	..	..	92	112	56	62	96	91	96	
Pneumonia	..	..	6	11	3	13	3	2	9	
Typhoid and Para-typhoid Fever			—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Poliomyelitis	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	

TUBERCULOSIS.
New Cases and Mortality during 1948.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
15	2	3	1	1	—	—	—	—
25	2	1	—	1	3	1	—	—
35	2	2	—	—	2	1	—	—
45	3	1	—	—	1	1	—	1
65 and upwards ..	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1
Totals ..	9	10	3	3	6	3	—	3

There were two deaths of persons not previously notified as suffering from tuberculosis.

No action has been called for under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1935, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1946.

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